

Green Businesses in Sunnyvale

Environmental Values at Work



A certified green cleaner is used on the checkerboard floor and the dutch door provides air flow to the store



The pet shampoos are made from natural and organic ingredients



Colorful pet toys made from recycled content materials are offered for sale

For Other Living Things

1261 South Mary Ave., Sunnyvale | 408.739.6785 | www.forootherlivingthings.com
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The first thing you notice when entering For Other Living Things, a Sunnyvale pet supplies store, is the cheerful black and white checkerboard floor and upbeat fifties music playing in the background. The store owner, Anita Ledtje, dreamed of having a pet store since she was a young girl so when the opportunity came up to act on her dream, not only did she open the store, she also made it green.

Ledtje's philosophy in regard to pet supplies is to find products that will not only benefit animals but have less of an impact on the environment. "We are critter people and earth friendly here," exclaimed Ledtje.

Some of the green products the store offers for pets and their owners are:

- colorful pet toys made from recycled plastic, rubber or hemp
- high quality food grade treats and pet foods, with no chemical ingredients
- natural and organic shampoos
- pet beds made from recycled plastic bottles
- recycled glassware and bowls
- organic chocolate bars and shade-grown coffee which helps create habitats for birds

Around the store, Ledtje and her husband retrofitted and replaced the old fluorescent fixtures with more energy-efficient ones and the toilet with a low-flow model. They kept the original dutch door and use it to create airflow and cut down on the use of the air conditioner, and use a pellet stove for heating, which burns more cleanly than wood. They recycle everything they can from the store and were even successful at replacing a garbage bin behind the store with a cardboard bin, saving the landlord over \$300 a month. They also created recycling policies and posted them on the employee bulletin board. "We make the recycling information available so everyone knows what to do, even if I'm not here," says Ledtje.

For more information on the green efforts of For Other Living Things, please contact Anita Ledtje.



To learn how your business can become certified as a Green Business, contact the Santa Clara County Green Business Program at 408.282.3180 or visit the website at greenbiz.sccgov.org

